

1-2 RFE

TRANSCRIPT OF BROADCAST

by

Fulton Lewis, Jr.

Station WGMS at 7-7:15 P. M.

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I have another very interesting letter tonight in connection with the contributions that some of the big corporations of the nation are making out of their stockholders' earnings through the Crusade for Freedom and the Radio Free Europe operations. This one involves a gentleman whose name is not important but who owns 200 shares of stock in the Chrysler Corporation--which is important. The gentleman wrote, accordingly, to the president of the Chrysler Corporation, Mr. L. L. Colbert, asking the amount of Chrysler's contribution to the Crusade for Freedom. Also he wanted to know the date and place of the next Chrysler stockholders' meeting and the proper procedure for placing a motion before that meeting.

The gentleman has sent me the reply which he received from Chrysler under the signature of Mr. E. H. Rybholm, coordinator of civic affairs, which I shall read you. It is dated one week ago today, but first let me suggest that you be on the alert as I do read it as to whether the questions that this gentleman asked in his letter are answered or not. Here it is and I quote: "Mr. Colbert asked me to reply to your letter of December 13, in which you raised certain objections to the Crusade for Freedom, based on some information which you either read in the papers, or heard on Fulton Lewis, Jr.'s broadcast. I am taking the liberty of sending you some material which I think will more fully explain the true facts concerning the Crusade for Freedom. You will note that included among this material is a strong endorsement of the Crusade by President Dwight D. Eisenhower, as well as specific answers to the charges brought by Fulton Lewis, Jr. I trust that after you have had a chance to look over this material, you will have a better idea of the work of Radio Free Europe and that your feelings in the matter will be somewhat different. Sincerely, E. H. Rybholm."

The gentleman who sent me the letter says that he now has written back to the Chrysler Company asking again his questions about the company contributions to Crusade for Freedom and about the stockholders' meeting. Apparently, the Chrysler Corporation does not want to answer the questions. Incidentally,

Mr. Colbert was the host in Detroit at the luncheon for Mr. Gwilym Price, the head of the Westinghouse Corporation, who is on tour for the Crusade, trying to coax big contributions out of big companies to finance the Radio Free Europe operation for the present year. The material enclosed with the letter from Chrysler is a copy of a letter from President Eisenhower to Mr. Gwilym Price, dated last July 11, which, of course, was before any of the facts and the truth about Radio Free Europe operations ever began to leak to the public. And I have reason to doubt that the President ever saw the letter before it was presented to him for his signature.

Also enclosed is a collection of the shopworn, moth-eaten attempts to answer and discredit the reports which I have made to you over this microphone. Most of this material is either straight fabrication out of the whole cloth or irresponsible misrepresentation. For example, the statement that Radio Free Europe must be effective because the Russians are spending more than \$100,000,000 a year in attempts to jam its broadcasts. That's the direct quotation. To demonstrate how thoroughly spurious this entire document is, Radio Free Europe doesn't even beam any broadcasts to Soviet Russia and doesn't purport to, and does not broadcast at all in the Russian language. Consequently, there are no Radio Free Europe broadcasts to Russia for Russia to jam. Poland stopped jamming all American broadcasts under the agreement by which we gave that country some \$90,000,000 worth of economic loans, so Poland is out of the picture.

I located the source of the jamming statement by Radio Free Europe, and it turned out to be a statement in the speech by Mr. Abbott Washburn, deputy director of the United States Information Agency, in November of 1956 at a dinner in Kentucky. And he informed me that he said at that time that the figures were strictly speculative and based on some estimates made by some engineers in the Voice of America, which itself, of course, has reason to put the very best possible front on the effectiveness of iron curtain broadcasts in general by way of justifying its own operations.

Even so, however, Mr. Washburn says that he made it very clear at that time that his estimate was actually \$113,000,000 a year for all jamming operations by Russia and all satellite nations combined against all outside broadcast operations--not just Radio Free Europe. This estimate includes \$68,000,000 for Russia and \$17,000,000 for Poland, which I had explained before and which would have to be subtracted from the \$113,000,000 total, which leaves only \$28,000,000. And this is for

jamming operations not against Radio Free Europe--but against all outside broadcasts. These include Radio Vatican, the most important and most feared of all by the Communists, the BBC, (a garble of a French broadcast), our own Voice of America, the powerful and effective RIAS in Berlin, which is one of their worst headaches, Radio Brussels, Radio Luxembourg, and a high-powered complex of free German and Austrian stations, somewhere in the \$28,000,000 is whatever is devoted to jamming Radio Free Europe, which can't be very much, because Radio Free Europe has only short-wave transmissions to the nations concerned and all of the others have both short-wave and standard broadcast transmissions. And it is the latter, of course, that concerns the Communists the most. Their people have broadcast band receivers for receiving the regular Communist government broadcasts and a few short-wave receiving sets.

Now let me read you the verbatim statement and its hogwash which is being sent out by Chrysler for Crusade for Freedom: "The Russians spend over a \$100,000,000 a year trying to jam our FE broadcasts, where they would hardly do so if the organization were run by pinkos, as Fulton Lewis, Jr. charges."

I'd like to urge again, ladies and gentlemen, that you try to arrange your plans for next week so as to be able to be at a radio at this broadcast time, because I shall begin a special phase of the Radio Free Europe story which I think you will find thoroughly shocking. It's a story which was too incredible for me to believe when I first stumbled into it, frankly, but after the expenditure of a very considerable amount of dollars and hundreds of hours of patient time, I find it that it is all very frightfully true.

